World Bank loan for irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

†3394. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Water Commission (CWC) has accorded approval to some fresh irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for getting loans from World Bank;

(b) if so, the amount of loan sought and the names of the other States which have sought the loans; and

(c) the number of irrigation projects likely to be completed through the above mentioned loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No fresh irrigation project proposal for getting World Bank loans has been received from the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during the last three years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present seven irrigation projects are under implementation in various States namely Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh with World Bank assistance in the country.

Appointment of Chairman ICICI to study the financial aspect of inter-linking of rivers

3395.SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether ICICI Chairman has been appointed to study financial aspects of the project on inter-linking of country's rivers;

(b) whether any group of engineers to study the technical feasibilities of the project has also been appointed; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The Union Government has set-up a Task Force on inter-linking of rivers on December 13, 2002. The Task Force has the following terms of reference :

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(i) Provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects in respect of economic viability, socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts and preparation of resettlement plans;

(ii) Devise suitable mechanism for bring ·g about speedy consensus amongst the States;

(iii) Prioritize the different project components for preparation of Detailed Project Reports and implementation;

(iv) Propose suitable organizational structure for implementing the project;

(v) Consider various modalities for project funding; and

(vi) Consider international dimensions that may be involved in some project components.

The Composition of the Task Force on date is as under :–

1. Shri Suresh P. Prabhu, Member of Parliament (LS)	Chairman
2. Shri C.C. Patel, Retd. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources	Vice-Chairman
3. Shri Deepak Das Gupta, Retd. IAS Officer	Full-Time Member
4. Shri K.V. Kamath, MD & CEO, ICICI Bank	Member
5. Shri R.K. Pachauri, Director General Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi	Member
6. Shri Piyush Goyal, Chartered Accountant, Mumbai	Member
7. Shri K. Kasturirangan, Chairman, ISRO, New Delhi	Member
8. Shri G.C. Sahu, Retd. Engineer-in-Chief, Government of Orissa	Member
9. Dr. K. Hari Babu, MLA, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Member
10. Dr. B.R. Chauhan, a Legal Expert, Delhi	Member
11. Shri B.G. Verghese, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi	Member
12. Dr. C.D. Thatte, Retd. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources	Member-Secretary

The Task Force has eminent members from different disciplines namely engineering, finance, etc. and is required to give recommendations on all the aspects related to inter-linking of rivers including technical feasibility and economic viability of the project as per its terms of reference.

Outcome of the meeting of People's National Water Forum

3396.SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the People's National Water Forum was held in New Delhi in March 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the participants and the broad issues considered therein;

(c) whether the Forum unanimously identified that the scheme to link India's rivers as a major threat to the basic human right to have access to adequate and quality water; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Neither any information regarding organization nor recommendations of the meeting of People's National Water Forum has been received by the Ministry of Water Resources.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Financial grants by International Institutions and World Bank

3397. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of financial grants received from International Institutions/World Bank etc. for irrigation projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of irrigation projects started by the various States during this period; and

(c) if so, the amount spent on each irrigation project?